(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Railways Electrification has been identified as thrust area and a target of electrification of 3500 RKMs has been programmed during the Eight Five Year Plan.

Rail India Technical and Economic Services

3028. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) is in the race for some of the plum consultancy contracts abroad and expects to boost its overseas earning during 1992-93 as reported in the 'Financial Express' dated 23rd July, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof indicating the names of countries and its future plans to explore new world markets further; and

(c) the number of projects the Rail India Technical and Economic Services has so far executed and the amount in million dollars received by it so far indicating outstanding payments, if any, with the names of such countries and time likely to be taken for settlement of dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) RITES are providing consultancy services in a number of countries such as: Cambodia, Iran, Indonesia, Algeria, Togo, Egypt, Tazara, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Yemen, Qatar, Botswana, Mozambique, Fiji, Ghana and Zambia. The company will compete alongwith others for consultancy contracts as hitherto.

(c) Over 600 contracts have been executed in India and over 100 including those currently under execution, have been executed in the foreign countries. Total amount received so far is equivalent to US Dollars 160 million for the foreign contracts. The outstanding payments against these foreign contracts in US Dillars 0·72 millions. In addition, an amount of US Dollars 49.66 millions is also awaiting realisation from deferred payment contract in Iraq.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में छोटी लाइन का मीटर लाइन में बदला जाना

3029. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान हिमाचल प्रदेश में कौन-कौन सी छोटी लाइनों को मीटर लाइन में बदले जाने का प्रस्ताव है ;

(ख) क्या कालका से परवानू तक रेल लाइन बिछाने के लिए कोई सर्वेक्षण कराया गया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब और इस पर अब तक क्या कार्रवाई की गई है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : (क) आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान हिमाचल प्रदेश में किसी छोटी लाइन के आमान परिवर्तन की योजना नहीं है ।

(ख) जी, हां ।

(ग) कालका-तिपरा (परवानू) बड़ी लाइन के निर्माण को अप्रैल, 82 में अनुमोदित किया गया था लेकिन बाद में राज्य सरकार और परवानू औद्योगिक एसोसिएशन के अनुरोध पर 1985 में इसे छोड़ दिया गया ।

Suburban Slow Local Trains in Bombay

3030. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at Dadar Railway Station in Bombay suburban slow local trains originate and terminate on Platform No. 1 and 2;